

<b>POLICY OF</b>	<b>POLICY NUMBER</b>	<b>PAGE NUMBER</b>
<b>STATE OF DELAWARE</b>	A-01	1 OF 1
<b>DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION</b>	<b>RELATED NCCHC/ACA STANDARDS:</b> P-A-01/4-4344 (ESSENTIAL)	
<b>CHAPTER: 11 HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>SUBJECT: ACCESS TO CARE</b>	
<b>APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER:</b>		
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE: 11-19-07</b>		

**PURPOSE:**

Inmates have access to care to meet their serious medical, dental, and mental health needs.

**POLICY:**

1. Access to care to meet serious health needs is the principle upon which all health services policies are based.
2. Any unreasonable barriers to inmate's access to health services will be identified and eliminated. Examples of unreasonable barriers might include, excessive co-payments, holding sick call at times outside normal institution operations, such as 4 a.m.
3. Information on health services is addressed in Policy E-01.
4. Information on Inmate Co-Pay Program is addressed in Policy E-01.1.
5. Access to care is a primary component of the Quality Improvement Program.

References:

National Commission of Correctional Health Care: Standards for Health Services in Prisons, 2003, P-A-01

American Correctional Association: Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions, 4th Ed, 2003. 4-4344 and 4-4345